

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-11, 13, 14, 16-23, 25, 26, and 28-35 are currently pending, wherein claims 1 and 11 have been amended to even more clearly define the present invention, and new claims 34 and 35 have been added. Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration in view of the remarks presented herein below.

Applicants further note that claims 1, 3, 4, 6-11, 13, 14, 16-23, 25, 26, and 28-35 are patentable over the cited prior art for at least those reasons presented in the response filed on October 13, 2006, which are hereby incorporated by reference.

The application is in condition for allowance. Notice of same is earnestly solicited. Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at telephone number (703) 205-8000, which is located in the Washington, DC area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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